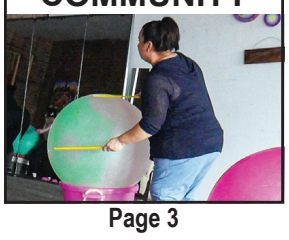
COMMUNITY



Page 3
Vamonos transforms into healthy "Third Place"

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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COMMUNITY

Pages 8-9 Archbishop Weisenburger visits Holy Redeemer

Conferencia sobre inmigración inspira a los estudiantes de escuelas secundarias católicas

Por Kaylee Razo

Más de 100 jóvenes de 12 escuelas se reunieron en la secundaria Cristo Rey de Detroit, en el suroeste de Detroit, para la quinta conferencia anual de Jóvenes en Acción por la Inmigración, el viernes 21 de marzo. Jóvenes en Acción por la Inmigración es el consejo juvenil de Strangers No Longer, una organización estatal guiada por la fe católica que lucha por la justicia migratoria.

Esta conferencia formó parte de un esfuerzo mayor para crear conciencia e inspirar a los estudiantes católicos de Michigan a actuar. Michelle Denton, maestra de la escuela Marian, explicó que muchos de sus estudiantes no tenían experiencia personal con la inmigración y que eventos como estos fueron clave para desarrollar empatía e inspirar a los estudiantes a actuar.

Otros estudiantes católicos se sintieron motivados por su fe y su experiencia personal con la inmigración para asistir a la conferencia.

Continúa en la pág.2

Immigration Conference Inspires Catholic High School Students to Take Action

By Kaylee Razo

More than 100 youth from 12 high schools gathered at Detroit Cristo Rey High School in Southwest Detroit for Youth in Action for Immigration's 5th annual conference on Friday, March 21st. Youth in Action for Immigration is the youth-led council of Strangers No Longer, a statewide organization guided by Catholic faith to fight for immigration justice.

This conference was part of a larger effort to spread awareness and inspire action among Catholic high school students across Michigan. Marian High School teacher Michelle Denton explained that many of her students did not have personal experience with immigration and events like these were key to developing empathy and inspiring students to take action.

Other Catholic students were fueled by their faith and personal experience with immigration to attend the conference. Sofia Dussan Bronson, a sophomore at Father Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor and the daughter of Colombian immigrants, explained that her faith and background guided her to "lead with love, mercy, and hospitality, especially to the most vulnerable in [her] community, just like Jesus taught."

cont. on pg. 2

Attendees of Youth In Action for Immigration's conference gather together for a group photo. Photo by Ixel Garcia and Evelyn Garcia

Skillman Foundation 2025 Visionary Awards Celebrate Education Changemakers

Juan Jose Martinez of Southwest Detroit honored

Bestowed annually, the Skillman Visionary Awards recognize up to 10 individuals who are updating and upgrading the education system in Detroit and beyond. Visionaries represent a mix of educators, advocates, and policy influencers who are reimagining the education system in innovative, community-informed, and collaborative ways. Visionaries receive a $50,000 individual award, acknowledging the impact they've already made.

The ten awardees honored in this year's cohort include **Saba Gebrain**, Foster Youth Advocate; Wytrice Harris, Community Organizer & Student Success Advocate; **Mario Lemons**, School Leader & Role Model; **Sarah Winchell Lenhoff**, Education Researcher; **Jametta Lilly**, Parent Organizer; **Juan José Martínez**, Public Charter School Superintendent; **Anika Akins McEvans**, Student Athletics Trailblazer; **Ambra Redrick**, Youth Champion & Cross-Sector Coordinator; **Alisa Ruffin**, Teacher Leader & Curriculum Designer and **Anisa Sahoubah**, Education Nonprofit Leader.

Juan José Martínez, Public Charter School Superintendent

Born and raised in the vibrant Latina/o community of Southwest Detroit, Juan José Martínez's mission hits close to home.

Martínez is superintendent of the public charter district César Chávez Academy. He closely engages with staff, students, parents, and community members to support the well-being and success of students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Under his guidance, César Chávez Academy Schools have been recognized for academic excellence and cultural inclusion.

César Chávez Academy students are encouraged to freely express themselves through different languages and celebrate the cultures of their families and neighbors. Bilingual and bicultural education is Martínez's specialty, and he has observed how this approach has proven to engage and accelerate young people in their learning journeys.

Before leading César Chávez Academy, Martínez served as the district's high school leader. He has also held a leadership role at Detroit Public Schools and was a two-time elected member of the Detroit Board of Education, District 2, where he advocated for additional federal and state funding for students and introduced policies at the district level that impacted thousands of students.

After serving on the Detroit Board of Education, Martínez worked in city government as an assistant to former Mayor Dennis Archer and chief of staff for then-City Council Member Sheila Cockrel.

Martínez says the students in his schools inspire him daily, and partnerships with parents fuel their success.

Skillman Foundation 2025 Visionary awardees

Juan José Martínez

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2 **Community** Immigration Conference Inspires Catholic High School Students to Take Action
3 **Community** Vamonos transforms into healthy "Third Place"
4 **Immigration** Federal Government Terminates Contract for Legal Representation for Children
7 **Housing** New Afforddable Housing Comes out of Left Field
8 **Community** Archbishop Weisenburger visits Holy Redeemer
10 **Sports** Opening Day for Detroit Tigers and Michigan Panthers
14 **World Cultures** Guatemala

Immigration Conference

Con't from pg. 1

Photos and captions by: Ixel Garcia and Evelyn Garcia

Kimberly Redigan, the campus minister at Detroit Cristo Rey High School, contributed a reflection, empathizing that Jesus was a refugee and taught that "Love has no borders, justice has no borders, and humanity has no borders".

The Catholic high school students who helped plan and facilitate this event were driven by the same hope of living out their Catholic faith, spreading awareness, and igniting change.

Valentina Sedano from Notre Dame Prep High School in Pontiac is the co-chair of Youth in Action for Immigration. She helped plan and facilitate the conference alongside students from different Catholic high schools, some as young as 15 years old. Sedano shared that she wanted to create a safe space where students could come together for awareness, action, and spiritual connectedness.

The student planning group invited three guest speakers to share the three pillars of the conference. They invited Gloria Rivera, former executive director of Freedom House and an Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) religious sister to explain the Catholic calling to advocate for immigration. Carmen Elena Luna, an immigrant and asylum seeker from El Salvador, shared her experience as an immigrant in the United States. Lastly, Monica Belej, a Harvard Law graduate and immigration lawyer at Catholic Charities, spoke about the need for immigration reform and advocacy.

Youth in Action for Immigration students also planned engaging activities to foster understanding and enhance advocacy skills. These included a refugee camp simulation, a Know Your Rights Training of the Trainer, a de-escalation non-violence training, and an Art and Advocacy station where students created art pieces and letters to send to their elected officials and religious leaders.

Joseph Davis, a junior at the University of Detroit Jesuit High School, explained that the conference allowed him to immerse himself in the experiences of immigrants and learn how he could help.

Some students left with a new perspective. One attendee explained, "I used to think it was much different, that immigration wasn't all good. The majority of it was bad…but coming here, I learned that not all people are doing it for the wrong reasons; sometimes they just want to help their family."

All of the 12 high schools in attendance left with comprehensive action plans on how to support immigrants in their city. Some of these plans involved visiting the state capitol and writing to their elected officials about immigration justice, others involved adopting newly arrived families, hosting fundraisers, and facilitating Know Your Rights training.

The students will continue to meet once a month as the school year progresses, and now, with this new momentum, they will return to their communities prepared to make an impact in the lives of immigrants.

For more information about how Michigan students and others can get involved in Strangers No Longer, visit www.strangersnolonger.org.

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Kaylee Razo is a high school senior at Detroit Cristo Rey High School and a passionate advocate. She is the co-chair of Strangers No Longer's Youth Council (Youth in Action for Immigration) and a mentor at the Michigan Youth Civil Rights Academy.

EL CENTRAL Hispanic News is partially funded by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news

Conferencia sobre inmigración

Con't de pg. 1

Sofia Dussan Bronson, estudiante de segundo año de la escuela secundaria Father Gabriel Richard en Ann Arbor e hija de inmigrantes colombianos, explicó que su fe y sus antecedentes la guiaron a "liderar con amor, misericordia y hospitalidad, especialmente hacia los más vulnerables de su comunidad, tal como enseñó Jesús".

Kimberly Redigan, ministra del campus de Cristo Rey de Detroit, contribuyó con una reflexión, enfatizando que Jesús fue un refugiado y enseñó que "el amor no tiene fronteras, la justicia no tiene fronteras y la humanidad no tiene fronteras".

Los estudiantes de secundaria católica que ayudaron a planificar y facilitar este evento estaban impulsados por la misma esperanza de vivir su fe católica, difundir la conciencia e impulsar el cambio.

Valentina Sedano, de la escuela Notre Dame en Pontiac, es copresidenta de Jóvenes en Acción por la Inmigración. Ayudó a planificar y facilitar la conferencia junto con estudiantes de diferentes escuelas secundarias católicas, algunos de tan solo 15 años. Sedano compartió su deseo de crear un espacio seguro donde los estudiantes pudieran reunirse para generar conciencia, acción y conexión espiritual. El grupo de planificación estudiantil invitó a tres ponentes para compartir los tres pilares de la conferencia. Invitaron a Gloria Rivera, exdirectora ejecutiva de Freedom House y religiosa del Inmaculado Corazón de María (IHM), para explicar el llamado católico a abogar por la inmigración. Carmen Elena Luna, inmigrante y solicitante de asilo de El Salvador, compartió su experiencia como inmigrante en Estados Unidos. Por último, Mónica Belej, graduada de Derecho de Harvard y abogada de inmigración en Caridades Católicas, habló sobre la necesidad de una reforma migratoria y la defensa de los derechos de los inmigrantes.

Los estudiantes de Jóvenes en Acción por la Inmigración también planearon actividades atractivas para fomentar la comprensión y mejorar las habilidades de defensa. Estos incluyeron una simulación de un campamento de refugiados, una capacitación para capacitadores sobre "Conoce tus derechos", una capacitación sobre cómo minimizar la violencia y una estación de Arte y Defensa donde los estudiantes crearon obras de arte y cartas para enviar a sus funcionarios electos y líderes religiosos.

Joseph Davis, estudiante de tercer año de la Escuela Secundaria Jesuita de la Universidad de Detroit, explicó que la conferencia le permitió sumergirse en las experiencias de los inmigrantes y aprender cómo podía ayudar.

Algunos estudiantes se marcharon con una nueva perspectiva. Un asistente explicó: "Solía pensar que era muy diferente, que la inmigración no era del todo buena. La mayoría era mala... pero al venir aquí, aprendí que no todas las personas lo hacen por las razones equivocadas; a veces solo quieren ayudar a su familia".

Las 12 escuelas secundarias asistentes se marcharon con planes de acción integrales sobre cómo apoyar a los inmigrantes en su ciudad. Algunos de estos planes incluían visitar el capitolio estatal y escribir a sus funcionarios electos sobre justicia migratoria; otros, adoptar familias recién llegadas, organizar eventos de recaudación de fondos y facilitar la capacitación "Conoce tus derechos". Los estudiantes continuarán reuniéndose mensualmente a medida que avance el año escolar y, con este nuevo impulso, regresarán a sus comunidades preparados para impactar positivamente la vida de los inmigrantes.

Para obtener más información sobre cómo los estudiantes de Michigan y otras personas pueden participar en Strangers No Longer, visite www.strangersnolonger.org.

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Kaylee Razo es una estudiante de último año en la escuela Cristo Rey de Detroit y una defensora apasionada. Es copresidenta del Consejo Juvenil de Strangers No Longer (Jóvenes en Acción por la Inmigración) y mentora en la Academia de Derechos Civiles Juveniles de Michigan.

EL CENTRAL Hispanic News es parte de Financiado por Press Forward, el movimiento nacional que fortalece a las comunidades revitalizando las noticias locales. Más información en www.pressforward.news

Students create butterfly art, with words of support for immigrants, that will be sent to their elected officials and religious leaders

A group of students participates in a refugee camp simulation, receiving rationed food, water, and tent space to replicate real-life conditions

(Both pictures above) A group of students participates in a refugee camp simulation to replicate real-life conditions

VAMONOS: Local Eatery Transforms into Healthy "Third Place" Promoting Physical Health and Wellness

By Juanita Zuniga | Photos by Luciana Vega

"Zumba, high-heel dance classes, cardio drumming, smoothies, and green-lean-protein filled sandwiches, salads and wraps made with ingredients sold freshly from local businesses but most importantly made with love" … so proclaim the menus that grace the walls of Vamonos Cafe and Eatery.

Vamonos owners Denisse López-Avila and her husband Carlos López

Denisse López-Avila is the owner of Vamonos along with her husband Carlos López. She is from Mexico City but raised right here in Detroit and she is a young woman with a mission for her community

At Vamonos, located at 4444 W. Vernor Hwy. just west of Clark Park, patrons can enjoy seasonal fresh smoothies that cater to all taste buds and preferences or maybe a heels class or Zumba. Even a drumming class or yoga if they so choose.

"It just kind of came to me from doing Zumba in my backyard, " says López-Avila. "We did a Zumba class and then we ate pizza after. I was like—no we gotta balance it out! I think we could sell juices and smoothies doing this too."

López-Avila provides physical activity classes for community members at a donation based cost or almost free at her two sided eatery and third place all week and all throughout the day.

According to a study done by the University of Chicago, "third place," is a term coined by sociologist Ray Oldenburg, and refers to social spaces that are outside of your home (first place) and work (second place). In these third places, people tend to gather, socialize, create community, and engage in meaningful interactions.

The vision came to Denisse while doing her usual run around Clark Park. She realized after her run she wanted something to balance her recent activity but there was nothing quite on the healthy side. No smoothie places or cafes focused on what she was looking for. Taco trucks? Yes. Antojito spots? Yes. McDonald's and Burger King? Absolutely.

"I went to a studio, I think it's in Birmingham, and I fell in love. I was like—this is what I want. Their schedule was full from Monday through Sunday of different classes and different instructors. And I thought, "I wanna do that for the community."

But it became something bigger than just a smoothie place or sandwich shop.

"I wanted to create a place where I could work, have fun, and bring my kids mainly. By making sure they were comfortable, then everybody else started feeling comfortable," says López-Avila. "I love that they [community members] can come in here and feel safe during whatever's happening in the world right now. Here at Vamonos, we've been so busy, and that lets me know that people do feel safe coming in here."

Thus, the bright neon hot pink 'Vamonos' sign has welcomed many to the eatery and continues to foster a space of community under the notion of care – caring how you nourish yourself physically, socially, and through your belly.

Máquinas Baila Fitness Class

"It's not fair that here in our hood we don't have a place to get up and be physical or get healthy food at affordable prices. We deserve all of this beauty too," says Lopez-Avila.

Until recently, there weren't any places in Southwest Detroit that provided healthy food or physical health to the community at an accessible, affordable price. Most times, folks in Southwest are driving downtown for a Tropical Smoothie or Beyond Juices or to Dearborn for their workouts at Crunch or Planet Fitness.

With the addition of Utila Juices and L' Artesano now open on W. Vernor, that is progress but still represents less than a handful of choices.

Though cafes are on the rise, Southwest Detroit hasn't seen enough healthy food establishments that focused on the physical or nutritious consumption side.

Then, there's the new and improved Planet Fitness that opened in September of last year on W. Fort Street downtown. Most folks in Southwest Detroit don't really know about that or the nearby outdoor gym at Clark Park either.

But the draw is deeper than just the commercialization of physical health. It is the community space in the heart of the neighborhood and the sense of caring that brings people back to sign up for more classes at Vamonos.

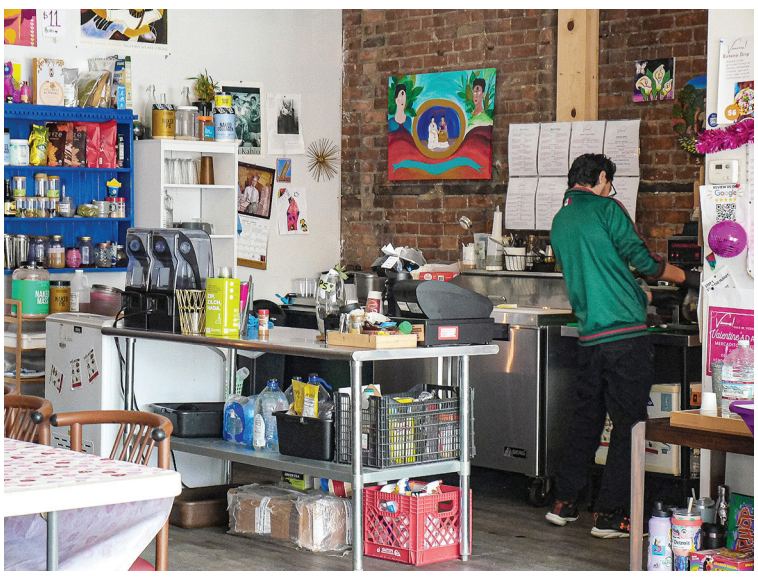
Alexis Escoto, an arts and cultural advocate and community organizer, in Southwest Detroit held an event at Vamonos and has been back as an active enthusiast of the eatery and studio.

"Having Vamonos now a part of that aspect of bringing healthy food and activity to our neighborhood is very important in our Latino community. We face a lot of health issues and to have more options is what we need," says Escoto.

At Vamonos, you can't miss a beat, literally. Classes, workshops, and training vary by week. But they begin as early as 6 a.m. until about 9 p.m. There is something for everyone. It doesn't matter your skill level; everyone is welcome to join in on the energetic euphoric vibes that Vamonos is bringing to Southwest Detroit.

Above and above right: Cardio drumming classes at Vamonos Cafe

Sofia Marzouq chills at Vamonos Cafe



The kitchen corner at Vamonos Cafe and Eatery

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IMPORTANT ADVICE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

Here's a tool to improve your health.

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Exercise greatly reduces serious risks to your health. Simply increasing your physical activity a little can help you prevent many illnesses and improve your health, fitness and well-being.

Juanita Zuniga is a graduate of Kalamazoo College with degrees in Anthropology, Sociology, and English. She was born and raised in SW Detroit and still resides there today. She is passionate about her community and hopes to serve it through writing. In her spare time, Juanita is a Latin history and music enthusiast. She is also a Cancer Sun, Libra Moon, and Cancer Rising.

Federal Government Terminates Contract For Legal Representation for Children

Services cut for 800 immigrant children in Michigan

On Friday, March 21, 2025, the Trump administration issued a termination of services notice "for the Government's convenience" to the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) and legal service providers nationwide for the Unaccompanied Children Program. Effective immediately, the near-total elimination of funding affects legal representation and supportive services for 26,000 vulnerable immigrant children and families across the nation, including more than 800 in Michigan served by MIRC. These children now face losing their legal representation. Minimal funds remain in place for basic legal screenings but even this provision may be in jeopardy beyond March 29. The notice came as the administration began accelerating removal proceedings – using a so-called "rocket docket" – to push children through our nation's deportation system at an alarming rate, depriving them of due process and protections against trafficking and abuse. In short, the funding loss will take away attorneys when children need them the most.

"This is the largest attack on immigrant children in Michigan since we faced the family separation crisis in 2018," said Susan Reed, MIRC Director. "Not only will more than 800 vulnerable children in Michigan face losing their dedicated lawyers, but we are rolling back decades of progress on protecting the rights of immigrant children. Children with representation are more likely to win their cases and unrepresented children tend to lose, so this action will change the course of our clients' whole lives."

MIRC condemns this cruel action from the Trump administration, designed to inflict further suffering on children and families already in peril. Legal services are unaccompanied children's only hope for a fair process in the complex, adversarial U.S. immigration system. Indeed, no other American court system expects young children to represent themselves. Children's unique vulnerabilities – including their age, developmental stage, and communication and comprehension constraints – make it virtually impossible for them to effectively navigate the immigration system without an attorney at their side. Recent data shows that immigration judges were almost 100 times less likely to grant relief to unaccompanied children without counsel than unaccompanied children with counsel. In most cases, government-funded legal services are the only lifeline preventing children as young as ten months old – the age of our youngest client – from facing court proceedings alone. MIRC attorneys have extensive training and use child-appropriate teaching aids to help our young clients understand the system they are navigating. No child in these circumstances can receive a fair legal process without an attorney.

MIRC attorneys and legal professionals have assisted hundreds of children through this critical program. MIRC helped two young Afghan twins reunite with their family following the fall of the Afghan government. MIRC represented a 12-year-old boy who escaped Central America after his father was imprisoned and tortured for voicing opposition to the government. The child now has a green card, is doing well in school, is a star on his sports team, and wants to join the Marines. One young girl fled West Africa after extreme abuse by her family and threats of a forced marriage to a man three times her age. Her resistance to the marriage led to abuse so severe that it caused a broken back. Since coming to the U.S., she has applied for a special immigrant juvenile visa and asylum, and dreams of becoming a pharmacist, a goal she would not be able to pursue in her country of origin. In addition to direct legal assistance, certain cases have also set precedent. For example, MIRC secured relief for a child who had been forced to work and whipped when he could not do so by his family in Central America. After arguing in the Michigan Court of Appeals, MIRC was able to build precedent that will help other abused children. The contract termination also effectively removes critical technical legal assistance and pro bono mentorship for any attorney willing to take on these complex cases in a child-centered and trauma-informed manner.

Legal services for children are also vital to combatting trafficking and exploitation of unaccompanied children. Child trafficking investigators regularly seek out MIRC staff to provide legal services for children so that investigators can hold traffickers accountable. One of the most powerful defenses a child has against labor or sex trafficking is having a trusted grown up to advocate for them. Legal staff specialize in building rapport with children that helps prevent them from slipping through the cracks and continuing to be exploited by traffickers. For instance, MIRC staff helped children who had experienced labor trafficking and child abuse to leave their traffickers and begin to heal. MIRC staff have also been instrumental in protecting children in federal custody from abuse, and now this vital protection has been undermined.

Unaccompanied children without legal representation simply cannot meaningfully navigate the U.S. immigration system in pursuit of legal protections for which they are eligible. Congress authorized potential relief for child victims of trafficking, sexual exploitation, labor abuse, abandonment, neglect, and other crimes. Such visas not only help children achieve safety and security, but also entail support for law enforcement agencies' investigation and prosecution of human traffickers and abusers. Simply put: taking away children's lawyers undermines efforts to stop trafficking and abuse.

Children are children, regardless of their immigration status, and our values and our laws compel us to act in their best interest. Access to supportive legal services helps children overcome barriers to school enrollment, identify low-cost resources within the community, and access protective services. A long-term trusting relationship with an attorney helps children who have suffered trauma begin to confide in adults and share their painful experiences. Eliminating these services directly impacts the prospects for vulnerable children to find safety and thrive, and undercuts our nation's bedrock values of fairness, compassion, due process, and caring for the unique needs of children.

"MIRC serves as a lifeline for some of the world's most vulnerable children who have found safety in our local communities," said Christine Sauvé, Policy and Communications Manager at MIRC. "These children have a human right to seek protection under our laws. The government's action will result in unnecessary suffering. It is heartbreaking to think that kids who are already integrated in our schools and places of worship will be deported back to harm and possibly death, even though they qualify for legal status here in the United States."

Despite this devastating news, MIRC will not be dissuaded from its mission. MIRC is committed to continuing to fight for the children who will be impacted by this termination, and all of our client communities. MIRC will continue to serve the 800 young clients we currently represent in Michigan as best we can, for as long as we can, given the limited resources we have available. However, 80% of our current staffing will be affected by this termination notice. We encourage Michiganders to make a contribution so that we are able to continue representation for as many of our vulnerable young clients as possible: michiganimmigrant.org/donate

MIRC is grateful for the recent outpouring of support we received from individuals, and the outreach to Congress that has taken place. Individuals are still encouraged to contact their members of Congress and tell them to restore these life-saving legal services.

Help protect immigrant rights in Michigan by making a contribution today michiganimmigrant.org/donate

MIRC
Michigan Immigrant Rights Center

Recursos para Inmigrantes en Michigan
1 Conozca sus Derechos
Aquí encontrará información específica de Michigan sobre sus derechos, cómo preparar a su familia para la aplicación de la ley, qué hacer si ICE viene a su puerta y qué hacer después de que alguien sea arrestado o detenido.
bit.ly/MIRCKYR
2 Servicios legales de inmigración
Si necesita servicios legales de inmigración, llámenos al 734-239-6863. Si las líneas están ocupadas, deje un mensaje y le devolveremos la llamada.
3 Todos los detenidos pueden llamar a MIRC por gratis desde el centro de detención
MIRC
michiganimmigrant.org

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Michigan Central Station Honored with Build Michigan Grand Award

The Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Michigan announced the winner of the 2025 Build Michigan Grand Award, which recognizes ultimate excellence in commercial construction. One project and construction team were bestowed the honor during the AGC of Michigan's Annual Meeting last month.

"A few years ago, a special award was developed to single out the best of the best, giving special attention when deserving to tremendous projects. The Grand Award. It is not presented every year, making it a very prestigious honor." said Damian P. Hill, AGC President.

The project for this award is selected based on the overall aspects of the Build Michigan Award including meeting the challenge of a difficult job, excellence in project management, innovation in construction techniques, sensitivity to the environment, responsiveness to client needs, and the contractor's contribution to the community.

2025 AGC Build Michigan Grand Award Winner:

- **Constructor:** Christman/ Brinker Corktown Transformation Joint Venture
- **Project:** Michigan Central Station
- **Owner:** Ford Motor Company/ Ford Land
- **Designer:** Quinn Evans

###

ABOUT AGC MICHIGAN

The AGC of Michigan is a full-service construction trade association providing safety, education and training, legislative & regulatory advocacy, human resources, labor relations options, construction information, and affinity programs. AGC members are dedicated to skill, integrity and responsibility. For more information, visit www.agcmichigan.org

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Process for Damage Claims

Submitted for 54-Inch Beard/Rowan Water Main Break February 17, 2025

1. Submit Notice of Claim form with the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) as soon as possible, at the latest April 3, 2025, which is 45 days after the date of the 54-inch water main break on Beard Street near Rowan. Per State of Michigan law, notice of claims must be filed within 45 days of the event.
2. Within approximately 14 days after submitting the Notice of Claim, the claimant (resident who filled out the claim) will receive an acknowledgement of their claim from Mackinaw Administrators, LLC (Mackinaw) – DWSD's third party administrator for this claim process. The acknowledgement will include a claim number and will be emailed to the claimant using the email address on the Notice of Claim form. If no email was provided, acknowledgement will be mailed to the property address listed on the Notice of Claim form.
3. Mackinaw will process the claim. Processing includes reviewing the claim including the relevant documents and photos and possibly visiting the property and damaged vehicle(s) for additional inspection. This process could take 45-60 days depending on the responsiveness of the claimant. Mackinaw will reach out to the claimant to obtain any information needed to process the claim.
4. Once the claim is processed, Mackinaw will determine the appropriate amount of money that should be paid to the claimant for the items included in the damage claim. If the claimant agrees with the determination, the claimant will be required to sign a release waiver prior to the issuance of payment. If the claimant declines Mackinaw's determination, it will be discussed with DWSD regarding options.
5. A claimant can check on the status of their claim by calling 877-311-3664 or emailing DWSD@mackadmin.com and sharing their claim number.
6. Mackinaw will process claims for auto damage, structural damage, and damage to personal property related to the February 17, 2025 flooding due to the 54-inch water transmission main break.

March 4, 2025

Proceso para Reclamos de Daños

Presentado por la Rotura de la Tubería Principal de Agua de 54 Pulgadas en Beard/Rowan 17 de Febrero de 2025

1. Complete el formulario de Notificación de Reclamo y envíelo al Departamento de Agua y Alcantarillado de Detroit (DWSD) lo antes posible, a más tardar el 3 de abril de 2025, que es 45 días después de la rotura de la tubería principal de agua de 54 pulgadas en la calle Beard cerca de Rowan. Según la ley del Estado de Michigan, la notificación de reclamos debe presentarse dentro de los 45 días posteriores al evento.
2. Dentro de aproximadamente 14 días después de presentar la Notificación de Reclamo, el reclamante (residente que llenó el reclamo) recibirá un acuse de recibo de su reclamo de parte de Mackinaw Administrators, LLC (Mackinaw), el administrador externo del DWSD para este proceso de reclamos. El acuse de recibo incluirá un número de reclamo y será enviado por correo electrónico al reclamante utilizando la dirección de correo electrónico indicada en el formulario de Notificación de Reclamo. Si no se proporcionó un correo electrónico, el acuse de recibo será enviado por correo postal a la dirección de la propiedad que figura en el formulario de Notificación de Reclamo.
3. Mackinaw procesará el reclamo. El procesamiento incluye la revisión del reclamo junto con los documentos y fotos relevantes, y posiblemente la visita a la propiedad y el vehículo(s) dañado(s) para una inspección adicional. Este proceso puede tardar entre 45 y 60 días, dependiendo de la rapidez de respuesta del reclamante. Mackinaw se pondrá en contacto con el reclamante para obtener cualquier información adicional que se necesite para procesar el reclamo.
4. Una vez que se procese el reclamo, Mackinaw determinará el monto adecuado que debe pagarse al reclamante por los artículos incluidos en el reclamo de daños. Si el reclamante está de acuerdo con la determinación, se le pedirá que firme una exoneración antes de la emisión del pago. Si el reclamante no está de acuerdo con la determinación de Mackinaw, se discutirá con el DWSD las opciones disponibles.
5. Un reclamante puede verificar el estado de su reclamo llamando al 877-311-3664 o enviando un correo electrónico a DWSD@mackadmin.com y proporcionando su número de reclamo.
6. Mackinaw procesará reclamos por daños a vehículos, daños estructurales y daños a propiedades personales relacionados con las inundaciones del 17 de Febrero de 2025 debido a la rotura de la tubería principal de agua de 54 pulgadas.

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Strengthening Community Engagement

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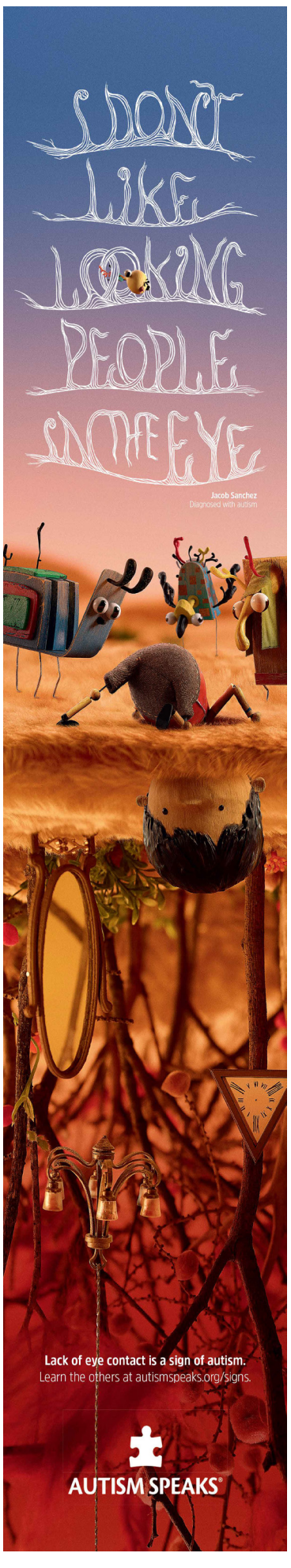
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Construir Conexiones Más Fuertes
Reforzar La Participación Comunitaria

MARZO 31, 2025
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Cafetería del Lincoln Park High School

lincolnparksdc@gmail.com 313-443-7931

The Changing Landscape of Southwest Detroit
El transformado paisaje del Suroeste de Detroit

Play ball! City & Community Leaders Celebrate Grand Opening of Left Field

Photos courtesy of City of Detroit

Development brings new affordable housing to Corktown

Deputy Mayor Melia Howard, along with City, State and Federal officials, joined with Corktown residents on Wednesday, March 19, to throw the first pitch, and celebrate the opening of Left Field, a $22 million residential development at the former site of Tiger Stadium that will bring affordable housing options to one of the city's fastest growing neighborhoods. Left Field is part of the city's sweeping a Neighborhoods Implementation (CNI) Greater Corktown transformation plan following years of planning and community engagement.

Left Field, built by American Community Developers (ACD), is the first of a two-building development that is expected to have a total of 113 apartments. 80 percent of the units in Left Field are reserved for households earning between 40 percent to 80 percent area median income (AMI).

The first phase of Left Field consists of studios and one-, two- and three-bedroom apartment and townhome units across two buildings. Left Field contains 48 affordable units, 28 of which will be set aside for households at or below 40 percent AMI. Rent for these units starts around $710 a month for a one-bedroom. Two units are set aside at 50 percent, or about $840 a month for a one-bedroom. Additionally, 29 of the 48 affordable units will have rental assistance limiting the tenant-paid rent to 30 percent of household income.

Deputy Mayor Melia Howard with her commemorative Left Field bat & Mike Essian, Vice President of American Community Developers

The project is the first phase of the HUD CNI housing plan. The City received a $35-million HUD CNI grant in 2021 (and supplemented in 2023) that will support the creation of hundreds of housing units with a wide array of affordability and options throughout Historic and North Corktown. The work, led by the City's Housing & Revitalization and Planning & Development teams, will ensure Detroiters of all backgrounds and incomes will be included as the neighborhood continues to see rapid development and escalating rents.

"We saw, even before the redevelopment of Michigan Central was announced, that Corktown was booming and that was going to result in growing rent pressures for a lot of long-time residents of the neighborhood," said Mayor Duggan in a statement. "So, we secured the HUD Choice Neighborhood Grant, which is helping us to build 600 new affordable housing units in Corktown so residents won't need to worry about being pushed out. Today, thanks to our partners at ACD, 48 families on the lower end of the income scale are living in a beautiful new building on one of the most spectacular sites in the city."

"This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to bring affordable housing options to the old Tigers Stadium site," said Jerry Krueger, president of American Community Developers, Inc. "We're thrilled that we were entrusted with this opportunity and we know that this will be an asset to the community for many years to come."

Left Field was funded in part by an award of $1.5 million in Low-Income Housing Credits (LIHTC)

Left Field resident Misty Cox shares fond memories of attending games at Tiger Stadium, and how fortunate she is to live where the stadium once stood.

from MSHDA. The development also received a $1 million HOME/ CDBG loan from the City. Citizens Bank is the equity investor through City Real Estate Advisors and Citizens Bank also provided the construction loan for Left Field.

"Left Field is a testament to what's possible when strategic investment meets strong collaboration. MSHDA is proud to support this transformative development, ensuring that as Corktown grows, long-time Detroiters can remain at the heart of the city," said Chad Bensen, MSHDA Director of Development. "With over $1 billion invested in affordable housing in Detroit over the past five years, we remain committed to creating vibrant, inclusive neighborhoods where all residents have access to safe, quality housing."

Left Field sets stage for next phase of Corktown affordable housing plan

As part of the Corktown HUD Choice strategy, the 87-unit HUD-assisted site known as Clement Kern Gardens will be razed and rebuilt. When it was built in 1985, the 9-acre site was isolated from the surrounding community with berms and fencing, and streets were cut off. Under this plan, the street grid will be reconstructed to better connect the neighborhood. As Clement Kern Gardens is redeveloped by American Community Developers, Inc. (ACD), current residents who want to stay in Corktown will be given priority to move to Left Field and future developments in the Corktown Choice plan.

Once Clement Kern Gardens is redeveloped, those residents who moved elsewhere during development can either stay in their new homes or choose to move to the rebuilt Clement Kern Gardens site. Most importantly, existing Clement Kern Gardens residents who qualify will continue to pay rent based on their income, and their housing needs and status will be prioritized throughout the Greater Corktown HUD Choice project. Work at Clement Kern Gardens is expected to begin in May of 2025.

The CNI plan also calls for a new economic empowerment center to be built upon the former site of the Owen School in North Corktown.

"The Choice Neighborhoods grant has been a game-changer for Detroit, allowing us to take bold steps in ensuring that longtime residents can remain in the communities they've helped build," said Julie Schneider, Director of Detroit's Housing and Revitalization Department. "Left Field is a prime example of how we're using this funding to create deeply affordable, high-quality housing in neighborhoods experiencing rapid growth. By leveraging this grant, we are not only preserving affordability but also fostering inclusive development that keeps Detroiters at the heart of Corktown's transformation."

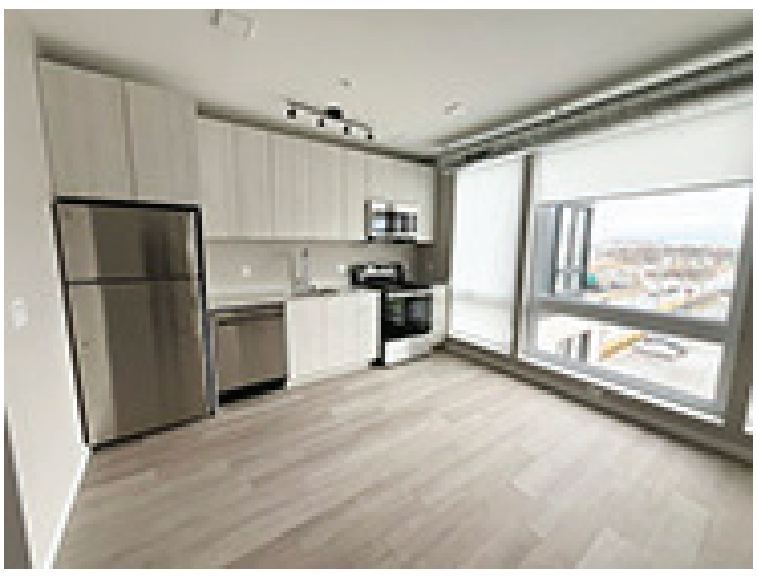
Rendering of Left Field

City Councilmember Gabriela Santiago Romero throws a pitch at the Grand Opening of Left Field which has been built on the former site of Tiger Stadium

More than $1.2 billion has been invested in affordable housing in Detroit over the past six years as part of a massive effort to ensure that longtime Detroiters of all income levels can live in any neighborhood they choose.

More information on the Corktown Choice Plan can be found at https://detroitmi.gov/departments/housing-and-revitalization-department/strategic-plans-reports-and-data/choice-neighborhoods

- 60-unit housing development at former Tiger Stadium site; 48 units for households earning no more than 80% of the area's median income
- 29 units have rental assistance
- New apartment building will be new home to residents at outdated Clement Kern Gardens in Corktown, which will be demolished and rebuilt to modern standards



Spacious interior of Left Field apartment with great views of the historic ballfield

About American Community Developers

ACD was founded in 1980 by Gerald A. Krueger primarily for the acquisition and rehabilitation of existing affordable housing developments. Over the years, ACD has broadened its scope of experience to include new construction, adaptive re-use, and historic renovations that consist of affordable, workforce and market rate housing. ACD's team of real estate professionals brings together a mix of diverse backgrounds and disciplines that continues to propel the company's success and growth in an ever-changing development landscape. ACD is also the parent organization to St. Clair Construction Company, a general contractor that specializes in apartment rehabilitation. ACD is recognized nationally as a leader in the housing industry. ACD remains committed to affordable and workforce housing, energy conservation and sustainable developments.

La comunidad hispana de Detroit celebra con alegría y esperanza el nombramiento del Arzobispo Weisenburger

Por Gabriella Patti | Reimpreso de *Detroit Catholic* | Fotos de Valaurian Waller

El nuevo arzobispo celebra su primera Misa de bienvenida en español en la parroquia Holy Redeemer, en el suroeste de Detroit

Cuando el Arzobispo Edward J. Weisenburger comenzó la Misa en la tarde del 20 de marzo en la Holy Redeemer Parish, la alegría de la congregación, en su mayoría hispana, era evidente al ver que el nuevo pastor de la Arquidiócesis de Detroit iniciaba la liturgia en español.

El Arzobispo Weisenburger fue instalado oficialmente como el sexto arzobispo de Detroit el martes 18 de marzo, y eligió la parroquia del suroeste de Detroit como el lugar para celebrar su primera Misa parroquial. Esta vibrante comunidad multicultural se encuentra en el corazón del Mexicantown de Detroit y está atendida por la Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT).

Al comenzar su homilía, el Arzobispo Weisenburger se disculpó por su español y dijo que daría su mensaje tanto en español como en inglés.

"Se me puso la piel de gallina cuando empezó a hablar en español", dijo Carmen Muñoz, feligresa de toda la vida, al Detroit Catholic. "Creo que toda la comunidad se sintió acogida por el simple hecho de que

El Arzobispo Edward J. Weisenburger bendice a los feligreses y miembros de la comunidad en la Parroquia Holy Redeemer, en el suroeste de Detroit, donde celebró su primera Misa parroquial el 20 de marzo, dos días después de haber sido instalado como el nuevo arzobispo de Detroit. La Misa, celebrada en español, fue una señal de bienvenida para la comunidad hispana de Detroit, muchos de cuyos miembros se mostraron esperanzados y alegres por la llegada del nuevo arzobispo.

hablara a todos en español".

Muñoz comentó que todas las personas con las que habló en la recepción después de la Misa también estaban sorprendidas.

El Arzobispo Weisenburger llegó a Detroit desde la Diócesis de Tucson, donde había servido desde 2017. Esta diócesis misionera, que limita con México, recibe miles de inmigrantes cada año. El Arzobispo Weisenburger ha sido un firme defensor de los migrantes y ha expresado su apoyo a la comunidad hispana.

"La cultura hispana tiene una alegría especial, donde la fe forma parte de la vida cotidiana", expresó el arzobispo Weisenburger durante una conferencia de prensa el 18 de marzo, antes de su Misa de instalación. "La fe no parece haberse perdido como ha sucedido con el secularismo en gran parte del mundo occidental. Para mí, compartir tiempo con la comunidad hispana es una experiencia que da vida".

Los miembros de la comunidad estaban emocionados de poder conversar con el Arzobispo Weisenburger, quien habló en español e inglés durante y después de la Misa.

Brenda Hascall, coordinadora de ministerios hispanos de la Arquidiócesis de Detroit, comentó a Detroit Catholic que se emocionó al saber que el arzobispo Weisenburger había aprendido español por su cuenta mientras servía a la comunidad hispana.

Aunque muchos miembros de la comunidad hispana de Detroit, especialmente los niños, hablan ambos idiomas, Hascall destacó que escuchar aunque sea unas pocas palabras en español genera un ambiente acogedor.

"Lo veía durante la Misa y estaba cantando junto a la gente; conoce los himnos, y se nota que la comunidad siente una conexión especial con él", comentó Hascall.

Además, resaltó que tener un arzobispo que no solo hable el idioma, sino que valore la diversidad y la riqueza que los católicos hispanos aportan a la Iglesia, es motivo de esperanza.

Al finalizar la Misa, estudiantes uniformados de la Holy Redeemer Grade School le entregaron una canasta de bienvenida al nuevo arzobispo. Durante la recepción en su honor, los feligreses se acercaron para saludarlo, tomarse fotos y recibir su bendición.

El padre John Robinson, SOLT, párroco de Holy Redeemer, comentó que la comunidad siempre recibe a todos con los brazos abiertos, pero al ver la expresión de sus feligreses, quedó claro que la llegada del arzobispo fue algo especial y que la comunidad estaba "llena de alegría".

El Arzobispo Weisenburger bendice a un hombre durante una recepción después de la Misa.

Bernadette Re, quien trabaja en la oficina de desarrollo de la escuela y es voluntaria misionera con la comunidad SOLT, comentó que los estudiantes de la escuela primaria estaban emocionados de usar sus uniformes durante la Misa y conocer al arzobispo.

"Algo que he aprendido sobre Holy Redeemer es que los feligreses son muy activos y comprometidos con la Iglesia, su comunidad y su fe", dijo Re. "Aman tanto a la Iglesia que el hecho de que el arzobispo reconociera su testimonio de fe y su hermosa presencia en la comunidad fue algo muy especial para ellos. Creo que eso dice mucho sobre su entrega".

Geraldine Hernández, secretaria de la parroquia desde hace 31 años, comentó que sintió "mucha paz" durante la Misa con el Arzobispo Weisenburger y que le causó alegría y sorpresa cuando él se presentó en español.

"Siento que va a hacer mucho bien en la ciudad de Detroit y en la arquidiócesis, especialmente para la comunidad hispana", expresó Hernández. "Es muy carismático, y necesitamos a alguien así que hable español, especialmente en este momento tan difícil. Los jóvenes se están alejando de la Iglesia, y ojalá él pueda atraerlos de nuevo, especialmente a los más jóvenes".

Antonio Guzmán-Díaz, coordinador arquidiocesano de formación de discípulos y feligrés de Holy Redeemer, expresó su esperanza de que el bilingüismo del Arzobispo Weisenburger ayude a romper las barreras del idioma y llame la atención sobre las necesidades y problemas que enfrenta la comunidad hispana, incluyendo la inmigración.

Guzmán-Díaz agregó que ahora más que nunca, la Iglesia necesita acercarse a la comunidad migrante, y el Arzobispo Weisenburger ya ha sido testigo de esto al cuidar de la comunidad en Tucson.

"Esto demuestra que es un obispo que se preocupa por la gente que le ha sido confiada, y es hermoso ver cómo está llevando a cabo ese cuidado pastoral con las

El Arzobispo Edward J. Weisenburger pronuncia su homilía durante una Misa de bienvenida el 20 de marzo en la Holy Redeemer Parish en Detroit. El arzobispo habló en español y en inglés durante la Misa y la recepción.

personas afectadas por la cuestión de la inmigración,", explicó Guzmán-Díaz. "Es un problema recurrente debido a un sistema migratorio que no funciona. Si bien no hay mucho más que él pueda hacer, su presencia marca una diferencia en la comunidad y en las vidas de las personas".

La sola presencia del Arzobispo Weisenburger da a la gente la esperanza de que la Iglesia los escucha, añadió Guzmán-Díaz, y otros feligreses dijeron lo mismo.

"Creo que se sienten apoyados y muy cercanos (a él) por el mero hecho de que pueden comunicarse (con él)", dijo Muñoz. "Creo que, especialmente hoy en día, con lo que está atravesando toda la comunidad hispana en estos momentos, se van a sentir apoyados por él. Estamos muy emocionados; seguimos rezando por él del mismo modo que él va a rezar por Detroit".

Detroit Hispanic Community Hopeful, Overjoyed by Archbishop Weisenburger's Appointment

By Gabriella Patti | Reprinted from *Detroit Catholic* | Photos by Valaurian Waller

Newly installed archbishop visits Holy Redeemer Parish in Southwest Detroit, celebrates first welcome Mass in Spanish

When Archbishop Edward J. Weisenburger began Mass on the evening of March 20 at Holy Redeemer Parish, the joy of the majority Hispanic congregation was palpable as the new chief shepherd of the Archdiocese of Detroit started the liturgy in Spanish.

Archbishop Weisenburger was officially installed as the sixth archbishop of Detroit on Tuesday, March 18, and chose the Southwest Detroit parish as the site of his first parish Mass. The vibrant, multicultural community is located in the heart of Detroit's Mexicantown and is served by the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT).

As he began his homily, Archbishop Weisenburger apologized for his Spanish and said he would deliver his message partially in both Spanish and English.

"I got goosebumps on my arms the moment he started speaking in Spanish," lifelong parishioner Carmen Muñoz told Detroit Catholic. "I think the whole community felt welcome just by the fact that he spoke to everyone in Spanish."

Members of the Hispanic community expressed their joy and appreciation at meeting the new archbishop for the first time, saying they felt loved and blessed by his visit.

The new archbishop was greeted by families, parishioners, staff members and school children, who were excited to wear their uniforms and meet Archbishop Weisenburger for the first time.

Muñoz said everyone with whom she spoke at a reception following Mass was also surprised.

Archbishop Weisenburger came to Detroit from the Diocese of Tucson, where he had served since 2017. The mission diocese borders Mexico and sees thousands of immigrants enter each year. Archbishop Weisenburger has been outspoken about the plight of migrants and has expressed support for the Hispanic community.

"There's a joyfulness in Hispanic culture where they have really woven faith into their lives," Archbishop Weisenburger said during a press conference March 18, before his installation Mass. "(Faith) doesn't seem to have been bleached out the way it has been with secularism in so much of the western world. I find it is life-affirming for me when I get to spend time with the Hispanic community."

Brenda Hascall, the Archdiocese of Detroit's coordinator of Hispanic ministries, told Detroit Catholic she was moved when she learned Archbishop Weisenburger taught himself the Spanish language as he ministered to the Hispanic community.

While many members of the Detroit Hispanic community, especially children, are bilingual, Hascall said hearing someone speak even a couple of words in Spanish is inviting.

"I was looking at him during Mass, and he was singing with the people, and he knows the hymns, and you can see that they can relate to him," Hascall said.

Hascall said having an archbishop who not only speaks the language, but values the diversity and beauty that Hispanic Catholics bring to the Church, gives her hope.

At the end of Mass, uniformed students from Holy Redeemer Grade School presented the new archbishop with a welcome gift basket. At the reception in his honor, parishioners lined up to greet him, take photos and receive blessings from Archbishop Weisenburger.

Pastor Fr. John Robinson, SOLT, said the Holy Redeemer community receives everyone with open arms, but as he looked around at the faces of his parishioners, it was apparent that the archbishop's welcome was special and that the community was "overjoyed."

Bernadette Re, who works in the school's development office and serves as a missionary volunteer with the SOLT community, said the grade school students were excited to wear their uniforms at Mass and meet the archbishop.

"What I've come to see and know about Holy Redeemer is that the parishioners are so vibrant and dedicated to the Church, their community and to the faith," Re said. "They love the Church so much, so I think that the validation of the archbishop seeing their witness of faith and their beautiful presence in the community is really special to them and think speaks a lot to their dedication."

Archbishop Weisenburger greets members of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT), who administer Holy Redeemer Parish and School, during a reception after Mass.

"I feel like he's going to be good to the city of Detroit and to the archdiocese, especially to the Hispanic community," Hernandez said. "He is very charismatic, and we need someone like that who is going to speak Spanish, especially now. We are living in a difficult time, especially for the young people living away from the Church, so hopefully, he will bring people back to the Church, especially the young ones."

Antonio Guzmán-Díaz, archdiocesan coordinator of discipleship formation and a parishioner at Holy Redeemer, is hopeful Archbishop Weisenburger's bilingualism will break down language barriers and draw attention to the needs and issues facing the Hispanic community, including immigration.

Guzmán-Díaz added that now, more than ever, the Church needs to draw closer to the migrant community, and Archbishop Weisenburger has already been a witness to this by caring for the community in Tucson.

"I think it's a sign that he is a bishop who cares for the people he has been entrusted with, and it's beautiful to see how he's doing that pastoral care for the people who are being affected by this issue with immigration," Guzmán-Díaz explained. "I think it's an ongoing issue due to our broken immigration system, and I know there is not much more that he can do, but his presence does make a difference in the community and people's lives."

Fr. Tony Blount, SOLT, smiles as Archbishop Weisenburger greets altar servers before Mass at Holy Redeemer Parish in Detroit on March 20.

Geraldine Hernandez, the parish's secretary of 31 years, said she "felt so much peace" during Mass with Archbishop Weisenburger and was also delighted and surprised when he introduced himself to her in Spanish.

Archbishop Weisenburger's presence alone gives people hope that the Church is listening to them, Guzmán-Díaz added, and other parishioners echoed the same sentiment.

"I think they are feeling supported and very close (to him) just by the fact that they can communicate (with him)," Muñoz said. "I think that especially nowadays with what the whole Hispanic community is going through right now, they are going to feel supported by him. We are so excited; we continue to pray for him as he's going to pray for Detroit."

Opening Day for Detroit Tigers and Michigan Panthers !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Detroit Tigers and Michigan Panthers

The Detroit Tigers are getting ready to start the 2025 MLB season, this Thursday, March 27th, on the road taking on the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Tigers home opener is Friday, April 4th at 1:10 pm at Comerica Park, when they host the Chicago White Sox for a three game series, before hosting the New York Yankees for three games, starting on Monday, April 7th at 6:40 pm. The Michigan Panthers are getting ready to start the 2025 season also, when they travel to take on the Memphis Showboats, this Sunday, March 30th at 12:00 pm (ESPN). The Panthers home opener is April 4th at 8:00 pm at Ford Field, when they host Birmingham Stallions (FOX).

Photos below are highlights from the Detroit Tigers and Michigan Panthers 2024 seasons

Detroit Tigers mascot Roary waving Tigers "Old English D" flag before a game, getting fans excited for the game

Detroit Tiger fans celebrating win

Michigan Panthers scoring a touchdown

Michigan Panthers making a play

Michgan Panthers 2025 season schedule

Week 1
March 30, 2025 | 12:00 PM EDT
at Memphis Showboats
Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium
Memphis, TN
ESPN

Week 2
April 04, 2025 | 8:00 PM EDT
vs. Birmingham Stallions
Ford Field
Detroit, MI
FOX

Week 3
April 13, 2025 | 12:00 PM EDT
vs. San Antonio Brahmas
Ford Field
Detroit, MI
abc

Week 4
April 18, 2025 | 8:00 PM EDT
vs. Memphis Showboats
Ford Field
Detroit, MI
FOX

Week 5
April 26, 2025 | 7:00 PM EDT
at St. Louis Battlehawks
The Dome at America's Center
St. Louis, MO
ESPN

Week 6
May 04, 2025 | 12:00 PM EDT
vs. DC Defenders
Ford Field
Detroit, MI
ESPN2

Week 7
May 10, 2025 | 1:00 PM EDT
at Arlington Renegades
Choctaw Stadium
Arlington, TX
FOX

Week 8
May 17, 2025 | 1:00 PM EDT
at Houston Roughnecks
TDECU Stadium
Houston, TX
FOX

Week 9
May 24, 2025 | 3:00 PM EDT
at Birmingham Stallions
Protective Stadium
Birmingham, AL
abc

Week 10
May 31, 2025 | 3:00 PM EDT
vs. Houston Roughnecks
Ford Field
Detroit, MI
ESPN

DCFC Fit To Be Tied

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

A chilly north wind and the option to stay home and watch on television didn't curb the passion of Detroit City FC's supporters last Saturday. 6,642 turned up at aging Keyworth Stadium to welcome home their undefeated heroes. Le Rouge started with two away wins and came home with confidence and momentum.

Coach Danny Dichio started the same group that defeated Miami FC and the Colorado Springs Switchbacks. Playing with the wind at their backs during the first half, DCFC looked like they would be heading towards a third straight win. Unfortunately, they made two crucial errors, gifting the winless Birmingham Legion one point while dropping two at home. Draws at home have been an issue for the team in the past. Keyworth isn't always the fortress it could be.

The home team started well enough. DCFC made plenty of inroads in attack, maintaining plenty of possession. The newly formed midfield trio of Jay Chapman, Marcello Polisi, and Jeciel Cedeno looked more cohesive than in the two away games. They played a series of deft flicks that picked up overlapping runs and left the Legion chasing for much of the opening forty-five minutes. Their narrow triangle opened space on the wings for Alex Villanueva on the left and Rhys Williams on the right.

DCFC's two first half goals came as a result of the space on the flanks. For the opener, Villanueva got free and picked out Darren Smith. The South African striker beat Birmingham goalkeeper Matt Van Oekel to the ball and headed home. It was exactly the way Dichio would have drawn it up. Ben Morris scored on a similar play from Rhys Williams on the right later on. Van Oekel saved his first shot, but Morris hammered home the rebound.

In between those two well made goals, DCFC let the Legion back into the game. Stephen Carroll chased a ball towards his own goal with a defender on his back. Nobody would have questioned it if the captain had booted the ball into the crowd and reorganized the defense. But, he chose to play a bouncing pass back to goalkeeper Carlos Saldana. Saldana could have put the ball out of play, but tried another short pass. Panic ensued. Within seconds, DCFC turned the ball over and Saldana had to pick it out of the goal. A couple of avoidable bad decisions by experienced players gave an outplayed opponent a lifeline.

Going against the wind in the second half, DCFC struggled. The Legion cut off the forward progress Le Rouge made on the wings, funneling most of the play through the middle. The midfield trio didn't connect quite as well as they did in the first half. The few set piece opportunities DCFC created didn't turn into dangerous attempts at goal, even after Dichio inserted returning veteran Ryan Williams into midfield because of his deliveries. The game became chippy. A foul on Saldana drew a big crowd that pushed and shoved each other. The Legion knew that with the crowd putting pressure on, the best way to get something out of the game would be to disrupt DCFC's rhythm. They succeeded.

Ten minutes from time, the Legion won a free kick near the right touchline. Roman Torres floated the ball into a crowd of DCFC defenders. Carroll jumped up unchallenged, but couldn't get enough of his head on the ball and ended up flicking into his own net. The last few minutes looked like a frantic effort to get back what had inexplicably been lost.

Even with the disappointing draw, DCFC remains at the top of the Eastern Conference. They are tied with their next opponent, Louisville City (Channel 50, 4:00pm). The top two teams will meet on Saturday afternoon at Lynn Family Stadium in an early season showdown. Louisville City ran away with the Eastern Conference last year, but fell in the first round of the playoffs. They will want to make a point against one of the teams most likely to challenge them in the standings this year. Like DCFC, Louisville City attracts good crowds at home, over 9,000 for their 2-0 win against Loudon last weekend.

This is going to be a big game early in the season. Unless they meet in either the US Open Cup or the Jagermeister Cup, the teams won't see each other until Louisville City comes to Keyworth at the end of September. It will be crucial for DCFC to get off to a good start and have a foothold. The team will know that they aren't alone with an entire section of Lynn Family Stadium set aside for supporters traveling to the Bluegrass State. This might be the first game in which Dichio tweaks his starting eleven. Devon Amoo-Mensah returned from injury and was on the bench last weekend. Ryan Williams also started plenty of games last year in midfield and can control the rhythm under pressure. After this, DCFC will have a good sense of how they measure up to one of the league's best teams.

IS THE JOB TOO MUCH FOR POCH?

The lasting image from the CONCACAF Nations League will be the sight of US manager Mauricio Pochettino shaking his head with a forlorn look on his face as the "golden generation" of American talent lost the third place game 2-1 to Canada. Having managed at the upper echelons of European football for years, what he saw over the two defeats last weekend must have left him wondering what he signed up for.

The American team, which really didn't play much like a team, started the semifinal against Panama with four players who start in Italy's Serie A, two English Premier League starters, a German Bundesliga starter, a French Ligue 1 starter, and one of the top goal scorers in the English Championship. Collectively, they did nothing to impress anyone, especially Panama.

After controlling more than two-thirds of the possession, they created less than five decent chances. At the end, those highly touted players turned into the Keystone Cops and fumbled their way to conceding a goal in the fourth minute of stoppage time. Sure, goalkeeper Matt Turner's positioning on the shot looked bad. However, there were several opportunities to see off the trouble well before his lack of club playing time could be rudely exposed.

Pochettino must take some of the blame, too. The players looked disinterested and unmotivated for both games. Against Panama, a team packing their defense into a tight 5-4-1, he needed to introduce players who could play in small spaces. However, against all logic, he left Real Salt Lake's Diego Luna and Dortmund's Gio Reyna on the bench, strangely bringing in Houston Dynamo midfielder Jack McGlynn.

For the consolation game, Canada looked more motivated. Having Jesse Marsch as a manager certainly helped with that. He was a tigerish player and his team fights for everything. They are also blessed with more team speed than the USA and played them off the park much of the night.

Luna, having watched the semifinal, got to start the consolation game and made an immediate impression. He's not especially fast, but he battles. He fought for every ball in his area. He made plays and tried things. It was so refreshing after the staleness of the semifinal. He linked up with Tim Weah to provide Patrick Agyemang with the pass that resulted in the Americans' only goal.

With the US losing 2-1, Pochettino decided he had seen enough of three big name players and took Christian Pulisic, Weston McKennie, and Tyler Adams out. That is a searing indictment of their impact on the game. Not that the substitutes who came on made much difference, but this looks like a manager who hasn't found a group that will fight together.

The USA will start the 2026 World Cup on June 12 in SoFi Stadium, the venue for this Nations League debacle. The stadium will be full, unlike for these two humiliations. The game will have the world's attention, unlike the CONCACAF Nations League. Will the USA be ready and competitive? Based on these two games, the tournament will probably be a money-making machine, but the host team will be a flop. If bowing out of the Copa America at the group phase cost Gregg Berhalter his job, what does it say about Pochettino and his team bottling the Nations League, a lesser tournament with weaker competition?

Few of the Americans played these two games like they play for their clubs. They lacked passion, fight, cohesion, and intensity. If the players who turned up for the Nations League don't want to be part of the program, they can just ask not to be selected. Pochettino has to find players who will commit to extra efforts with the national team. Right now, he's not getting it. For the CONCACAF Gold Cup this summer, some players won't be available due to the FIFA Club World Cup going on simultaneously. Winning the Gold Cup and performing well has now become paramount. They have to give the supporters a reason to turn up and get behind them.

Detroit City Mens Draw Home Opener, and Indoor Womens In Playoffs !!!

Photos provided by Detroit City FC

Detroit City Football Club opened the curtains on Keyworth Stadium for the 2025 season on Saturday in front of 6,642 supporters, playing to an intense and fierce 2-2 draw with Birmingham Legion FC. The goals for Le Rouge were scored in the first half from strikers Darren Smith and Ben Morris. Detroit City FC created enough chances to win the match but could not score a third goal to earn all three points.

Next, Detroit City FC will travel to Louisville City FC on Saturday, March 29, for a top-of-the-table clash. Detroit City FC has qualified as the #1 Seed for the MASL W League Playoffs in Iowa this weekend!

Following a flawless 10-0 regular season, the squad has earned a First-Round bye and will face the lowest remaining seed on Saturday, March 29. Specific timing information will be coming soon.

All matches at the 2025 MASL W League Playoffs will be streamed live, free of charge, on the ILCN Network YouTube Channel.

For more information about Detroit City FC, visit detcityfc.com and follow @DetroitCityFC on X and Facebook and @detroitcityfootballclub on Instagram.

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS

Michigan's #1 oldest, largest, genuinely local and only bi-lingual Hispanic news. Minority (Hispanic) and woman owned. Multi-year winner of Jose Marti National Award for excellence in Editorial and Design. Published in Metro Detroit since 1988.

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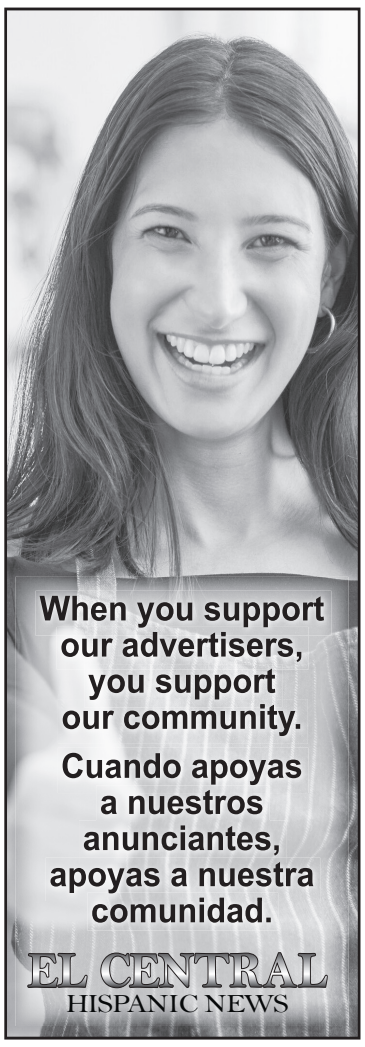
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An Intergenerational Plática with

Dolores Huerta

Sí Se Pudo, Sí Se Puede, y Sí Se Podrá!

Monday, March 31
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Rackham Auditorium
Free and Open to the Public

The theme for this year's celebration of the César Chávez Day of Service and Learning at the University of Michigan will be **"Sí Se Pudo, Sí Se Puede y Sí Se Podrá!"**: An Intergenerational Plática with Dolores Huerta.
Civil rights icon and labor activist Dolores Huerta will engage in an intergenerational discussion about the importance of social justice activism and engagement in the democratic process.
Please register and join us for this inspiring event! In-person and live streamed. Registration and ticket are required. Questions? Please contact Rackham Assistant Dean Ethriam Brammer at ebrammer@umich.edu

Rackham César Chávez Day of Service and Learning

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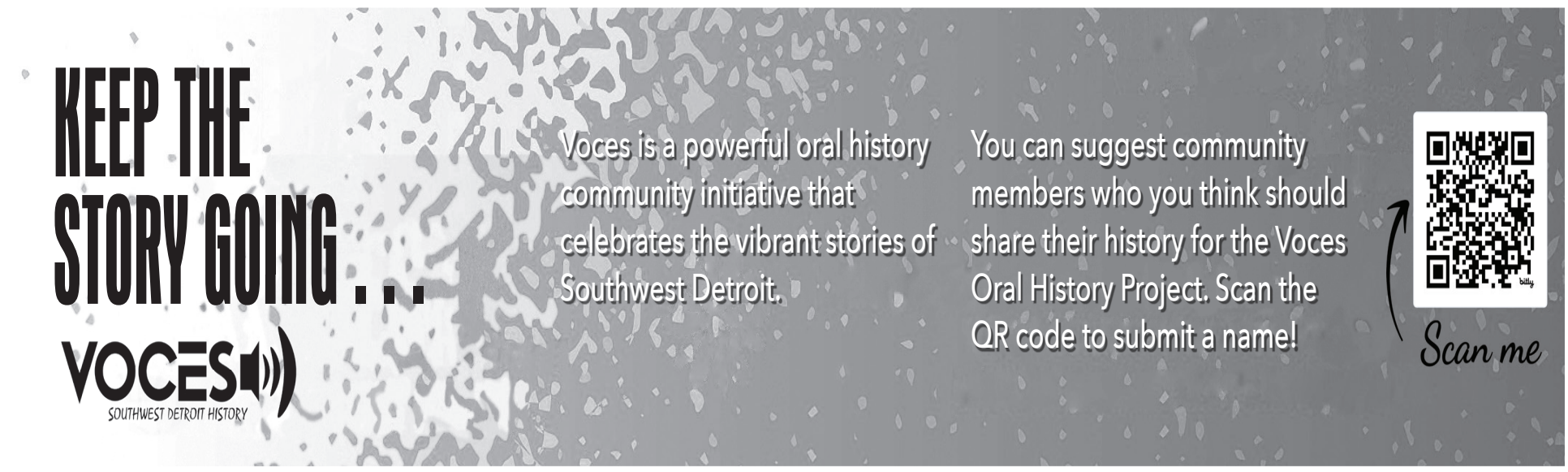
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LULAC Condemns Executive Order To Abolish U.S. Department Of Education As An Attack On Latino Students And Democracy

Nation's Largest Latino Civil Rights Organization Mobilizes to Defend Public Education for All

Washington, D.C. – The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) vehemently opposes President Donald Trump's executive order to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education. This action threatens the foundation of equitable public education for all children across the United States and Puerto Rico.

"At a time when Latinos make up more than 28% of all U.S. public school students, attacks on public education funding disproportionately harm our community," Roman Palomares, LULAC National President and Chairman of the Board. "Nearly 14 million Latino students rely on public schools as the primary pathway to opportunity, yet state and federal funding inequities have long left Latino-majority schools under-resourced. Eliminating federal oversight would only widen these gaps and set our children back for generations," he adds.

Public education is the cornerstone of our democracy, ensuring that every child, regardless of background, has access to quality learning opportunities. Approximately 49.6 million students are enrolled in public elementary and secondary schools across the United States, with an additional 251,000 students in Puerto Rico as of fall 2022.

"Education is the great equalizer, the most powerful tool to lift our communities, break cycles of poverty, and open doors to opportunity. Weakening public education threatens to slam those doors shut on Latino children and all historically underserved students across our nation."

Public education is not only a Latino issue but a national one. The Department of Education plays a crucial role in enforcing civil rights

laws, ensuring students with disabilities receive necessary support, and directing billions in federal funding to schools serving low-income families. The department's dismantling would strip away these protections, leaving states to decide how and whether to uphold educational equity.

LULAC calls on all fair-minded Americans to demand that Congress stop dismantling federal agencies responsible for protecting our children's education. We urge voters to contact their representatives and remind them that public education is a public good—not a partisan issue.

"We must also send a clear message to the executive branch and President Trump," concludes Palomares. "America is a democracy built on the Constitution, not a nation ruled by political whims and shifting ideological tides. Public education is a right, not a privilege, and we will fight to defend it."

###

About LULAC

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization. Founded in 1929, LULAC is committed to advancing the rights and opportunities of Latino Americans through advocacy, community building, and education. With a growing network of councils nationwide, LULAC remains steadfast in its mission to protect and empower millions of Latinos, contributing daily to America's prosperity. For more information about LULAC and its initiatives, please visit www.LULAC.org.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

Do you have a contrary opinion? Write us at info@elcentralmedia.com

LULAC condena la orden ejecutiva que abolió el Departamento de Educación de EE. UU. como un ataque a los estudiantes latinos y la democracia

La organización latina de derechos civiles más grande del país se moviliza para defender la educación pública para todos

Washington, D.C. – La Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC) se opone vehementemente a la orden ejecutiva del presidente Donald Trump para desmantelar el Departamento de Educación de Estados Unidos. Esta acción amenaza los cimientos de una educación pública equitativa para todos los niños de Estados Unidos y Puerto Rico.

"En un momento en que los latinos representan más del 28% del total de estudiantes de las escuelas públicas de Estados Unidos, los ataques a la financiación de la educación pública perjudican desproporcionadamente a nuestra comunidad", declaró Román Palomares, presidente nacional y presidente de la junta directiva de LULAC. "Casi 14 millones de estudiantes latinos dependen de las escuelas públicas como su principal vía de acceso a oportunidades; sin embargo, las desigualdades en la financiación estatal y federal han dejado a las escuelas de mayoría latina sin recursos suficientes desde hace mucho tiempo. Eliminar la supervisión federal solo profundizaría estas brechas y perjudicaría a nuestros niños durante generaciones", añadió.

La educación pública es la piedra angular de nuestra democracia, ya que garantiza que todos los niños, independientemente de su origen, tengan acceso a oportunidades de aprendizaje de calidad. Aproximadamente 49.6 millones de estudiantes están matriculados en escuelas públicas primarias y secundarias en todo Estados Unidos, con 251,000 estudiantes adicionales en Puerto Rico desde el otoño de 2022.

"La educación es el gran ecualizador, la herramienta más poderosa para impulsar a nuestras comunidades, romper los ciclos de pobreza y abrir puertas a las oportunidades. El debilitamiento de la educación pública amenaza con cerrarles esas puertas a los niños latinos y a todos los estudiantes históricamente desfavorecidos de nuestra nación".

La educación pública no es solo un problema latino, sino nacional. El Departamento de Educación desempeña un papel crucial en la aplicación de las leyes de derechos civiles, garantizando que los estudiantes con discapacidades reciban el apoyo necesario y destinando miles de millones de dólares en fondos federales a las escuelas que atienden a familias de bajos ingresos. El desmantelamiento del departamento eliminaría estas protecciones, dejando a los estados la decisión de cómo y si defender la equidad educativa.

LULAC hace un llamado a todos los estadounidenses justos a exigir que el Congreso deje de desmantelar las agencias federales responsables de proteger la educación de nuestros niños. Instamos a los votantes a que se pongan en contacto con sus representantes y les recuerden que la educación pública es un bien público, no un asunto partidista.

"También debemos enviar un mensaje claro al poder ejecutivo y al presidente Trump", concluye Palomares. "Estados Unidos es una democracia construida sobre la Constitución, no una nación gobernada por caprichos políticos y corrientes ideológicas cambiantes. La educación pública es un derecho, no un privilegio, y lucharemos por defenderla".

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Acerca de LULAC

La Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC) es la organización latina de derechos civiles más grande y antigua del país. Fundada en 1929, LULAC se compromete a promover los derechos y las oportunidades de los latinoamericanos mediante la defensa de sus derechos, el desarrollo comunitario y la educación. Con una creciente red de consejos en todo el país, LULAC se mantiene firme en su misión de proteger y empoderar a millones de latinos, contribuyendo diariamente a la prosperidad de Estados Unidos. Para más información sobre LULAC y sus iniciativas, visite www.LULAC.org.

Las opiniones expresadas en esta columna no son necesariamente las del editor o redactor

¿Tienes una opinión contraria? Escríbenos a info@elcentralmedia.com

Special World's Cultures

Guatemala

Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary

The Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary is located in what was formerly known as the Temple of Santo Domingo, which was completed in 1808.

The image of Our Lady of the Rosary was cast in silver in 1580, commissioned by Friar Lope de Montoya and sculpted by Nicolás Almayna, Lorenzo Medina, and Pedro Bozarráez. Unfortunately, after the Santa Marta earthquake in Antigua, the image was damaged in some parts, and it was restored by Cornelio Lara in 1774. In 1918, Julio Dubois reworked it, and on January 28, 1933, it was crowned with precious stones. The final restoration was carried out by Ramiro Urungaray in 1983.

Our Lady of the Rosary is the patron saint and Queen of Guatemala, which means that she is the one who pleads before God for the needs of her devotees.

Guatemala

Guatemala is one of the best-known Central American countries, boasting active volcanoes, colonial cities, and pre-Hispanic cities like Tikal. It has coasts on both oceans the Pacific and Atlantic by the Gulf of Honduras. Guatemala's colonial city of Antigua is well-known. It was founded during the viceroyalty as Santiago de los Caballeros de Guatemala in 1543 in the central highlands as the capital. However, its power declined due to the three strong Santa Marta earthquakes in 1773. This led to the capital being moved in 1776 to the present-day Nueva Guatemala de la Asunción.

Recipe: Kaq ik

Ingredients:

2 pounds of turkey, cut into large chunks
5 onion stalks
4 sprigs of cilantro
10 sprigs of mint
1/2 ounce of sesame seeds
4 allspice or paprika grains
4 to 5 peppercorns
1 ounce of pepitoria or pumpkin seeds
1/2 pound of tomato
4 ounces of miltomate or green tomatillo
2 guaques or guajillo chilies
1 chile pasa or pasilla
1 red bell pepper
6 large garlic cloves
1 medium onion
1 tablespoon of ground red achiote
Chili piquín powder
Salt to taste

Instructions:

Cook the turkey with a little salt and a bouquet garni made with onion stalks, mint, and cilantro in enough water to cover the meat and prevent it from evaporating during cooking.

Brown the pumpkin seeds, sesame seeds, and peppercorns without burning them. Once everything is browned, add them to the blender until they are finely ground into a paste.

Separately, roast the chilies, bell pepper, garlic, onion, tomato, and miltomate. Then blend them to create a sauce.

To make the recado (a thick mole-like sauce), mix the chili and tomato sauce with the seed paste and strain it.

Once the turkey is cooked, remove it from the broth and set aside. Also, remove the bouquet garni stem it was cooked in.

Add the recado to the broth where the turkey was cooked and boil for 5 minutes. Then, return the cooked turkey to the recado. Add a little salt, achiote, and cobanero chili to taste.

Serve in large pieces with a little rice, pochito or white tamale and tortillas.

Poetry: Luz Mendez de la Vega

Luz Méndez de la Vega was one of Guatemala's leading literary figures; she was born in 1919 and died on March 8, 2012. She endured a very difficult period for her country. It was precisely in the 1970s, when Guatemalan intellectuals were attempting to express themselves artistically through the Rin-78 and La Moira groups to channel the creativity that the dictatorship sought to stifle.

She received countless accolades and awards; she was the first woman to receive the Miguel Ángel Asturias National Literature Prize. Among her published books are the poetry collections "Helénica" and "Of Words and Shadows," the essays "The President and the Tyrant Banderas" and "The Poetry of Eugenio Montale," and the play "Three Faces of a Woman in Solitude."

Anticipation

Because you are a traveler,
my love always has
the pain of goodbyes.

One day you will leave.
Passenger guest,
other faces will hide from you,
other names,
and other arms.

A postcard will come
from distant landscapes.
Portraits of you will bring me
an echo of your blue gaze
that will tremble in my hands.

You will leave
because you are a sailor,
pursuer of horizons
in your hallucinated compass
of impossible norths.
You will leave, and ours
will be a dream and oblivion.

That's why
don't ask me,
now,
why my love
always has
the pain of goodbyes...

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Guatemala

Basílica de Nuestra Señora del Rosario

La Basílica de Nuestra Señora del Rosario se encuentra lo que antiguamente se llamaba el Templo de Santo Domingo, el cual se terminó de construir en 1808.

La imagen de la Virgen del Rosario fue realizada en plata en 1580 por encargo de fray Lope de Montoya y esculpida por Nicolás Almayna, Lorenzo Medina y Pedro Bozarráez; lamentablemente, tras los terremotos de Santa Marta en La Antigua, la imagen quedó dañada en algunas partes, siendo restaurada por Cornelio Lara en 1774. En 1918 Julio Dubois la intervino de nuevo y el 28 de enero de 1933 fue coronada con piedras preciosas. La última restauración fue realizada por Ramiro Urungaray en 1983.

La Virgen del Rosario es la Santa Patrona y Reina de Guatemala. Las festividades en su honor son en octubre de cada año.

Poesía: Luz Méndez de la Vega

Luz Méndez de la Vega fue una de las figuras primordiales de literatura de Guatemala; nació en el año 1919 y falleció el 8 de marzo de 2012.

Recibió gran cantidad de elogios y reconocimientos; fue la primera mujer en recibir el Premio Nacional de Literatura Miguel Ángel Asturias.

Entre sus libros publicados se encuentran los poemarios "Helénica" y "De las Palabras y la Sombra", los ensayos "El Señor Presidente y Tirano Banderas" y "La poesía de Eugenio Montale", y la pieza teatral "Tres Rostros de Mujer en Soledad".

Anticipo

Porque eres viajero
mi amor siempre tiene
dolor de adioses.

Un día te irás.
Pasajero huésped,
te esconderán otras caras,
otros nombres
y otros brazos.

Una postal vendrá
desde remotos paisajes.
Retratos tuyos me traerán
un eco de tu mirada azul
que temblará en mis manos.

Te irás porque eres marino
perseguidor de horizontes
en tu alucinada brújula
de nortes imposibles.
Te irás y lo nuestro
será sueño y olvido.

Por eso
no me preguntes,
ahora,
por qué mi amor
siempre tiene
dolor de adioses...

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
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Hispanic News

Guatemala

Guatemala es uno de los países de Centro América más conocidos, pues cuenta con volcanes activos, ciudades coloniales, así como ciudades prehispánicas como Tikal. Cuenta con costas al pacífico y al atlántico por el golfo de honduras. Colinda con México, Belice y Honduras.

Receta: Kaq ik

Ingredientes:

2 libras de pavo cortado en pedazos grandes
5 tallos de cebolla
4 ramas de cilantro
10 ramas de hierbabuena
½ onza de ajonjolí
4 granos de pimienta gorda o pimentón
4 a 5 granos de pimienta
1 onza de pepitoria o pepita de calabaza
½ libra de tomate o jitomate
4 onzas de miltomate o tomatillo verde
2 chiles guaques o guajillo
1 chile pasa o pasilla
1 chile pimiento morrón rojo
6 dientes de ajo grandes
1 cebolla mediana
1 cucharada de Achiote rojo molido
Chile piquín en polvo
Sal al gusto

Preparación:

Se cuece el pavo con un poco de sal y un ramo hecho con tallos de cebolla, hierbabuena y cilantro en suficiente agua para que cubra la carne y ésta no se evapore durante el hervor de la cocción.

Se ponen a dorar, sin quemar, la pepitoria, el ajonjolí y los granos de pimienta, una vez que todo ha quedado dorado se echan a la licuadora hasta quedar bien molido tipo pasta.

Aparte se asan los chiles, el chile pimiento, ajo, cebolla, el tomate y el miltomate para luego molerse en la licuadora para que quede un tipo de salsa.

Para hacer el recado (salsa espesa tipo mole) se mezcla la salsa de los chiles y tomates con la pasta de las semillas, posteriormente se cuela.

Una vez que el pavo se ha cocido, se retira del caldo y se aparta; se saca también el ramo con el que se cocinó.

Al caldo donde se coció el pavo se le agrega el recado y se pone a hervir durante 5 minutos para que se integren los sabores, luego se regresa el pavo cocido para que éste se sazone. Se agrega un poco de sal, achiote y chile cobanero al gusto.

Servir en pedazos grandes con un poco de arroz, pochito o tamalito blanco, tortillas.

4TH ANNUAL COLLEGE FAIR

Reaching Your Dreams!

WE WILL HAVE:

- Colleges & Universities
- FAFSA Workshops
- STEM Activities
- Engineering Panel
- Raffles: Laptop & Prizes!!!

SATURDAY
April 12, 2025

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

La Casa Guadalupana
4330 Central St, Detroit

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FREE EVENT

Organized By:
SHPE Detroit Professional
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LA CASA
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4TA FERIA UNIVERSITARIA ANUAL

¡Alcanzando Tus Sueños!

TENDREMOS:

- Universidades
- Talleres de FAFSA
- Actividades de STEM
- Panel de Ingenieros
- Sorteo de Laptop y Premios!!

SABADO
Abril 12, 2025

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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RESERVA

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EVENTO GRATIS

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WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE

Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree

Property tax payment plans are available now!

Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement (IRSPA)

This payment plan reduces the interest rate from 18% to 6% for eligible taxpayers. To sign up, you must own and live in your home, and have a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) and ID that proves residency.

Distressed Owner Occupant Extension (DOOE)

This program is not available to everyone. If you own and live in the property, and are suffering financial hardship you may qualify for this program. Proof of ownership, occupancy, and hardship are required.

Stipulated Payment Agreement (SPA)

Available to everybody, this plan allows a taxpayer to pay taxes pursuant to a payment schedule. The plan will avoid foreclosure provided that payments are submitted per the agreed upon schedule.

Pay As You Stay Payment Agreement (PAYSPA)

Only for those who have first applied for their local municipality's Poverty Tax Exemption (PTE) and received an approval. Once notified by your local Assessor's office and deemed eligible, our office will mail you a notification letter with your Reduced Amount Due. You will have the option of paying a lump sum (additional 10% off) or enrolling into a PAYSPA.

Many of these plans are available online at treasurer.waynecounty.com!

For more information email WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com or call (313) 224-5990.